

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 AID-05 SAM-01 /085 W
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R 210746Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4956

INFO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR

USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS

EUCOM

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 7234

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL PFOR TU CY

SUBJECT: TURKISH TROOP WITHDRAWAL

REF: ANKARA 7173

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF SEPT 20, EKREM GUVENDIREN, MFA DEPT. OF CYPRUS-GREECE AFFAIRS, SAID THE TURKISH TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM CYPRUS ANNOUNCED SEPT 17 (REFTEL) IS A WITHDRAWAL OF CERTAIN UNITS NO LONGER NEEDED ON THE ISLAND. HE SAID THE WITHDRAWN UNITS WOULD NOT BE REPLACED AND THERE WOULD THEREFORE BE A NET REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF TURKISH FORCES IN CYPRUS. HE REFUSED TO SAY, HOWEVER, HOW MANY TROOPS ARE BEING WITHDRAWN.

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2. ARMY ATTACHE SEPT 20 TALKED WITH TURKISH GENERAL STAFF (TGS) LIAISON OFFICER WHO SAID THAT THE ANNOUNCED WITHDRAWAL HAD BEEN COMPLETED SEPT 17. HE CONFIRMED THAT THE WITHDRAWAL RESULTED IN A NET REDUCTION IN TURKISH FORCES IN CYPRUS, BUT, PLEADING IGNORANCE, HZ REFUSED TO QUANTIFY THE SIZE OF THE REDUCTION.

3. COMMENT: IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THE TIMING OF THE WITHDRAWAL IS MORE CLOSELY RELATED TO THE OPENING OF THE 31ST UNGA THAN TO MILITARY CONSIDERATIONS. AS FOR THE SIZE OF THE REDUCTION, WE HAVE NO GOOD INFORMATION, BUT IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE WITHDRAWN UNITS WERE ABLE TO RETURN UNDETECTED PRIOR TO THE TGS ANNOUNCEMENT SEPT 17, WE DOUBT THAT THE NUMBER OF FORCES INVOLVED APPROACHES THE 5000 SUGGESTED BY AP (REFTEL).
FRANCIS

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NNN

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